

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/820,427

Examiner

Joseph Lauture

Applicant(s)

CRETI ET AL.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to correspondence filed 04/07/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 April 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 40704
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 120304
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian Santarelli on 12/03/2004.

In claim 1, line 1: replace "an unary" with --a unary--.

In claim 1, line 5: replace "preliminary" with --preliminarily--.

In claim 1, line 6: replace "the INL" with --an INL--.

In claim 1, lines 7 and 9: replace "associated to" with --associated with--.

In claim 1, lines 10 and 13: replace "in respect" with --with respect--.

In claim 1, line 13: replace "the preceding" with --a preceding--.

In claim 1, line 18: insert --and--between "sequence" and "iteratively".

In claim 1, line 22: replace "the successive" with --a successive--.

In claim 1, line 23: replace "the next" with --a next--.

In claim 1, line 24, delete "though remaining".

In claim 1, line 27: replace "b3)" with --b2),--.

In claim 5, lines 1-2 and 2-3; and in claim 7, lines 2-3: replace "in correspondence of" with --with respect to--.

In claims 6 and 8, lines 1: replace "consists in" with --consists of--.

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In claim 8, line 2: replace "the most" with --a most--.

In claim 9, line 2: replace "in respect" with --with respect--.

In claim 21, line 2; and claim 22, line 3: replace "the first" with --a first--.

In claim 21, line 3: replace "the sequence" with --a sequence--.

In claims 21 and 22, lines 5: replace "the third" with --a third--.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: an apparatus and method of generating a switching sequence for a unary array of conducting branches, comprising the steps of: preliminarily evaluating said error distribution function, fixing an upper bound function and a lower bound function symmetrical to each other of an INL error function associated with the switching sequence; determining the center of gravity of the array and calculating by said preliminarily evaluated error distribution function error values associated with each pair of conducting branches symmetrical with respect to the center of gravity of the array; choosing pairs of successive conducting branches in the switching sequence such that every even conducting branch ($2n$) is substantially symmetrical to a preceding odd conducting branch ($2n-1$) with respect to said center of gravity; building a switching sequence with an INL error function comprised between said upper bound and lower bound functions by: a) starting from a first chosen pair of conducting branches (1, 2) of the switching sequence and iteratively performing the following steps from b1) to b3) for all other pairs of conducting branches of the array: b1) calculating a corresponding value of the INL error function of the switching sequence being built, b2) choosing as the successive pair, the pair of conducting branches that maximizes or minimizes the next value of the INL error function of the switching sequence, b3) if all said other pairs do not meet the conditions of point b2), then repeating the steps from a) to b2), choosing every time a different first pair of branches, and if the conditions cannot yet be met, changing at least one of said bound functions and restarting from point a); c) when all other pairs of

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conducting branches of the unary array meet the conditions, outputting the resulting switching sequence.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph Lauture, whose telephone number is (571) 272-1805. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday between 9:30 am and 6:00 PM

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Tokar can be reached at (571) 272-1812. The fax number for the organization to which this application is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1562.

Joseph Lauture
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Date: 12/03/2004


PEGUY JEANPIERRE
PRIMARY EXAMINER